GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3373
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011
LAWFUL INTERCEPTION AND MONITORING SYSTEM
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has asked the telecom companies to enhance their Lawful Interception and Monitoring (LIM) systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Research in Motion (RIM) offered India, lawful interception of Black-Berry data;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on the above aspects?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) & (b) Madam, as per provisions of Indian Telegraph Act 1885 and the licensing Terms and Conditions, the Telecom Service Providers are required to make suitable provision for Lawful Interception and Monitoring (LIM).

(b) to (e) As per the Security Agencies, the Lawful Interception is possible for Voice, SMS (Short Message Service) and BIS (Blackberry Internet Services) offered on Blackberry platform.

Various meetings have been held between Security Agencies and Research in Motion (RIM), the providers of Blackberry services. For Blackberry Messenger (BBM) Services, a solution has been offered by RIM but the Security Agencies are not satisfied with the solution. RIM has not yet given the solution for interception of their Blackberry Enterprise Services (BES). According to RIM they do not possess any key for this service because communication offered through this service is dynamically encrypted. However, message in text can be obtained from Enterprise Email Server, where it is in readable format.